

## Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-3605

October 13, 2020

The Honorable Ajit V. Pai Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Pai:

I write to you to in support of the recent market access application filed by Midland, Texas based AST&Science (AST): (SAT-PDR-20200413-00034/SAT-APL-20200727-00088/S3065).

AST's next generation "SpaceMobile" low earth orbit (LEO) satellite constellation will expand our nation's ability to provide critical communications services to Americans and our first responders by creating the first space-based cellular broadband network connectivity to existing, unmodified 5G and LTE devices.

This highly innovative solution promises to deliver broadband cellular coverage to those living and working in the hardest to reach areas in the U.S. and will prove essential to life-saving communications in emergency situations; our schools and businesses that face increasing dependency on mobile wireless applications; and our nation's agriculture, oil and gas, and other important industries that operate in remote and rural areas.

SpaceMobile will provide direct communications signal from their LEO-based satellites to existing smartphones and internet-based devices, without the need for traditional cellular ground infrastructure, will accelerate our ability to fill critical coverage gaps where financial and physical barriers have long restricted the timely expansion of wireless networks to the most rural areas around our country.

I am proud that AST's SpaceMobile communications satellites are being constructed at their corporate headquarters and manufacturing facility in Midland, Texas and believe it is vital to accelerate U.S. access to this needed communication technology in a timely manner. I strongly support and encourage approval of this market access application and thank you for your time and continued leadership.

Sincerely,

K. Michael Conaway Member of Congress